

House (Tract #1917)

HABS No. MO-1235

.5 miles south of junction of St. Clair,  
Henry, and Benton Counties  
Lowry City Vicinity  
St. Clair County  
Missouri

HABS,  
MO,  
93-LOWCITY, I-

PHOTOGRAPHS

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

ADDENDUM  
FOLLOWS...

## HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. MO-1235

## HOUSE (Tract #1917)

Location: 0.5 miles south of junction of St. Clair, Henry, and Benton Counties approximately 9.5 miles northeast of Lowry City, Lowry City vicinity, St. Clair County, Missouri.

USGS Valhalla Quadrangle, Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: 15.454150.4227880.

Present Owner: United States Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District.

Present Use: Vacant.

Significance: This is a fine example of a pyramid-roof house, a type common in the first two decades of the 20th century. The corbeled chimney is an unusual feature.

PART I. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

1. Condition of fabric: Fair; the walls are in good condition, but some doors and plumbing fixtures are missing.
- B. Description of Exterior:
  1. Over-all dimensions: This one-and-a-half story square house has a four-bay front, 42'-4" wide including porch, by 30'-4" deep.
  2. Foundations: Stone foundation.
  3. Wall construction, finish and color: There is horizontal wood siding over balloon framing. The corner boards terminate in small capitals with cyma recta moldings, making them into thin corner pilasters.
  4. Structural system, framing: Balloon framing.
  5. Porches: There is a small concrete porch, about 7' x 7', in front of both front doors and a screened porch with shed roof across the entire east side of house.
  6. Chimneys: There were two brick stove chimneys in the center of the house. One is missing, but the east chimney has a corbeled top.

7. Openings: The door and window openings are topped by lintels with cyma recta moldings, both on the interior and exterior. The windows have one-over-one light double hung wood sashes. The doors are missing.
8. Roof: The roof is a truncated pyramid with a flat top, covered with asphalt shingles over wood shingles. Dormers on the south and west sides have hip roofs, exposed rafter ends, double windows, and wood shingle siding.

C. Description of Interior:

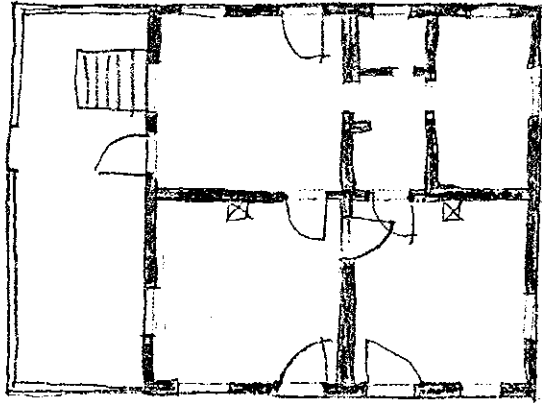
1. Floor plans:

- a. The basement under the house, accessible from the east porch, was probably added later.
- b. The first floor plan is a square divided into four equal quadrants. The north (front) and south facades each have four bays, with the front having two central front doors. The east and west facades each had two windows, but a door has been added on the east facade to provide access to the porch. The southwest room was divided into a closet, bedroom, and bath, but the three other rooms remain square. In the ceiling of the closet is a hatch to the attic, which despite the dormers is an unfinished space.

2. Flooring: 3 1/4" wide tongue and groove wood flooring.
3. Wall and ceiling finish: Wallpaper over plaster on wood lath.
4. Doors: four-panel doors.

- D. Site: The house faces north toward the gravel county road which turns west in front of the house. There is a small fenced yard.

Prepared by William Brookover  
Project Supervisor  
Historic American  
Buildings Survey  
Summer 1977



72

FLOOR PLAN #1917

PART II. PROJECT INFORMATION

The Truman Reservoir Project was funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District, in compliance with Executive Order 11593 as a mitigative effort in the construction of the Harry S Truman Dam and Reservoir, in the summer of 1977. William Brookover (Columbia University), supervisor; Michael Connor (University of Virginia), team foreman; Gary Baker (Catholic University), Edwin Daniel (Mississippi State), and Gary Statkus (University of Illinois), student architects; Paul Weed (Columbia University), architectural historian.

Addendum to  
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HABS  
MO,  
93-LOWCIT.V  
1-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

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Lowry City vicinity, Saint Clair County, Missouri

Owner: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Occupant: vacant

Use: vacant

## Statement of significance:

Built in the early years of the twentieth century, this "pyramid" house - square in plan with a pyramidal hip roof - is characteristic of its type in the survey area.

## A. PHYSICAL HISTORY

## 1. Date of erection: circa 1900-1910

This house is of a type common to the first two decades of the twentieth century. The tract was sold in 1883 for \$300, in 1906 for \$2000 and in 1909 for \$2800. These last two sales might indicate the construction of the house, but there is an intermediate -- and unfortunately not traced -- sale of the tract between 1883 and 1906 which would have to be considered before a builder could be named.

## 3. Original and subsequent owners:

W $\frac{1}{2}$  lot 9 NE $\frac{1}{4}$  Section 2 Township 39N Range 24W

to John A. Love 30 August 1883 (16:535): (to.....):  
Aaron B. Smith to L. R. Shepherd 23 April 1906 (82:461):  
to William J. Wood 21 June 1909 (94:608): (to.....): J. N.  
Scott to J. E. Scott 13 September 1941 (207:578): to Fount  
A. Crabtree 28 January 1946 (226:285): to Neil Smart 7 March  
1947 (226:420).

## 5. Original plan:

The house is square in plan, divided into four sections of equal size, the Southwest quadrant being subdivided to accomodate a bedroom, bath, closet and small hallway. Both front rooms each has a front door.

The roof -- a pyramidal hip roof, cut-off at the top -- is characteristic of this house type.

6. Alterations and additions:

At some time a screened-in porch under a shed roof was added along the entire East side of the house.

B. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

1. Primary and unpublished

B. Deed books 16:535, 82:461, 94:608, 207:578, 226:285,  
420 in the Registry of Deeds, Saint Clair County  
Courthouse, Osceola

C. LIKELY SOURCES NOT YET INVESTIGATED

George Wood  
Quincy, Missouri

Prepared by

*Paul Garfield Weed.*

Summer 1977